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Agenda item 73 (b)

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Greece, Ireland, Kazakstan, Kuwait, Lithuania, Malaysia, Portugal, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Tunisia: draft resolution

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament, 1/ and in particular that section concerning expansion of the membership of the Conference,

Stressing the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral global negotiating body on disarmament,

Convinced that a more representative membership of the Conference on Disarmament from among the United Nations would contribute to the more effective pursuit of disarmament goals affecting the entire international community,

Recalling that, since 1978, when agreement was reached at the First Special Session on Disarmament that the membership of the then Committee on Disarmament would be reviewed at regular intervals, there have been 37 applications for membership of the Conference,

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/51/27).

Recalling that, in 1993, the Special Coordinator for Membership of the Conference on Disarmament proposed that twenty-three applicants for membership be admitted to the Conference and proposed further that a dynamic solution to the question of membership should be pursued,

Recalling decision CD/1406, taken at the 739th plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament on 17 June 1996, admitting twenty-three countries as members of the Conference,

Recalling its resolution 50/72 C of 12 December 1995, adopted without a vote, which urged that, following the presentation of progress reports by the President of the Conference, the other applicants to date be further considered by the Conference at its session in 1996,

Noting the request of the Conference on Disarmament that its President continue consultations on a further expansion of its membership and report to it at the beginning of its session in 1997,

1. Recognizes the legitimate aspirations of all countries that have applied for membership to participate fully in the work of the Conference on Disarmament;

2. Calls upon the Conference on Disarmament to consider all remaining applications for membership with a view to reaching a decision on its further enlargement before the end of its 1997 session.